

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council and Department Heads met in regular session on Wednesday April 10, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Percy J. Purnell, Jr., Mayor
LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President
Kimberly B. Lawson, Councilman
Mike Atkins, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Mike Tabor, Chief of Police
Noah Bradshaw, Inspector
Michael Sullivan, Attorney

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Richard Crumbacker; Liz Holland; Arnold Ajello; Irving Saltz; George Friedley; Eddie Heath; Doug Crockett; Ella Ward; George Friedley; and Irving Saltz.
Absent due to illness; Raymond Anderson, Councilman

Mayor Purnell called the meeting to order, opening with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. He then requested approval of the deferred minutes and the new set.

Councilman Atkins noted that due to absences on two sets of the minutes, he and Council Vice President Johnson and he and Councilman Lawson could not vote on these sets which were the February 20, 2013 set (absent – Lawson and Atkins) and the March 13, 2013 set (absent – Atkins and Johnson.)

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 13, 2013. Motion seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried unanimously. Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 13, 2013. Motion

seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried with abstention by Councilman Atkins and Council Vice President Johnson. Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 20, 2013. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried with abstention by Councilman Lawson and Councilman Atkins.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief Mike Tabor presented the Department's monthly report with the March 2012-2013 comparison.

Councilman Lawson made reference to citizens' complaints that officers were driving too fast when not on a call. Chief Tabor advised Councilman Lawson to have the citizens call him.

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, presented her monthly report with year-end projections. She noted that this year's budget will be a roll-over from last year. Mrs. Morgan noted that departments have been instructed to go easy on spending in April and May.

Mrs. Morgan noted, in reference to the Beach Committee, the Mayor and Council will approve what they do and they can spend their money as they want.

Mrs. Morgan also noted that the City is ready to award the bid at the depot with money received through insurance, due to hurricane damage.

Mrs. Morgan also noted that CDBG has released funds for the generators and stoplight.

Noah Bradshaw, Inspector, reviewed his monthly report, highlighting its contents. He also noted that no building permit fees are being charged to people making repairs due to Hurricane Sandy.

Councilman Konapelsky noted that there is a lead abatement class on April 22nd and 23rd.

Councilman Lawson made reference to the appraisals for the wind turbine location property and advised that their deadline is in 15 days. He suggested that Mr. Sullivan write an extension option.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2ND READER OF ORDINANCE 621 – “WATER LINES EXTENDING BEYOND CITY LIMITS”

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to adopt this ordinance for 2nd Reader. Motion seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried unanimously.

OFFER OF LAND – CORNER OF CHESAPEAKE AVENUE AND SOMERSET

Mr. Bradshaw noted that this lot is buildable. Councilman Konapelsky commented that the lot should be used for “green space”

Councilman Lawson commented that the lot is not buildable, according to a previous title search, and that he agrees with Councilman Konapelsky.

Councilman Konapelsky suggested holding a contest for ideas of what to do with the lot. Council Vice President Johnson noted that she agrees.

At this time, Councilman Lawson made a motion to accept the offer of the property, which is not a buildable lot, to be used for a pocket park system and to forgive up to \$100 in taxes. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS - BID OPENING – CARVEL HALL WINDOWS

Mrs. Morgan opened and read aloud the two bids received; 1) Harkins \$173,330 and Go Glass \$103,500.

Mayor Purnell noted that the bidders had gone around the building looking at the various types of windows and advised that as a section of building is filled, the windows will be put in.

Councilman Lawson inquired as to how long the companies will hold their prices.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to go with the low bidder – Go Glass, based on them locking their prices in for a one year period. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

WATER QUALITY BOND ORDINANCE 622

Mayor Purnell reviewed water quality bond ordinance 622 for the wind turbine in the amount of \$452,765. and \$3.7 M. He noted that the \$3.7 is forgiven and the \$452,765 will be paid back over 20 years.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that there needs to be a discussion about where the money generated by the turbine can be used.

Mr. Sullivan advised that the procedure is to adopt this ordinance as an emergency ordinance which requires two affirmative votes, not a majority.

Mr. Sullivan also made reference to the loan agreements which are standard forms from MDE in which specifics would be inserted.

Mayor Purnell commented that he wants the loan paid back long before any repairs to the turbine is needed.

Following a brief discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt Ordinance 622 as an emergency ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried unanimously.

Councilman Atkins then made a motion to adopt Ordinance 622. Motion seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried unanimously.

BUILDING SAFETY PROCLAMATION

Noah Bradshaw, Inspector, reviewed Building Safety Month Proclamation for the month of May. Approval so moved by Councilman Lawson, seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Councilman Lawson noted that the group from “World Renew” will be in on Monday to assess individuals with unmet needs due to Hurricane Sandy. He advised that he would like to see the information they collect get on the LTR data base as soon as received, since this is the key to the requirement of spending CDBG’s \$8.6M grant to the City within the two year time frame.

DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE

Councilman Konapelsky requested that this be deferred until May.

SIGN DISCUSSION

Councilman Lawson made reference the leased billboard on 4th and Maryland Avenue and advised that the City would like to move forward with a more sophisticated sign. He advised that the \$25K from the sale of the library property would be used and he would have a plan ready for the next meeting. Councilman Lawson requested that Mrs. Morgan notify the sign tenants to remove their signs by May 31st. He advised that he has approached the Chamber, the Somers Cove Motel, the Museum and Legion concerning purchasing for advertising on the 13 foot by 4 foot sign which should be ready by August 1st. He also advised Mr. Bradshaw that he wants 30 UV quality and that the sign company would be obtaining the necessary permits. He also advised that the sign will be set back in the park. He advised Council Vice President Johnson that mitigation money will be used.

Councilman Atkins noted that direct lighting is not permitted without a change in the current

ordinance. Mr. Bradshaw advised that he is in the process of working on the ordinance.

Mayor Purnell suggested leaving the old signs up until the new one is in place.

At this time, Councilman Lawson made a motion to extend the date for leaving the signs up to June 30, keeping the owners up to date, forgoing any sign rent. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

The Council also instructed Mr. Sullivan to revise the current sign ordinance.

DISCUSSION – CHARTER CHANGE

Councilman Lawson addressed Mr. Sullivan concerning clarification regarding an election matter. Mr. Sullivan advised that C5-12 establishes that the candidate with the highest number of votes is the mayor. He noted that if a run-off election is held it would be another election between the two highest vote getters.

PARKING 9TH & SPRUCE STREET

Councilman Lawson made reference to the City property on 9th & Spruce adjacent to the museum in front of Alan Tyler's property and advised that he would like it posted "no parking 10:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.". Councilman Konapelsky agreed. Council Vice President Johnson advised that she would like 11:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Following further discussion, Councilman Lawson made a motion to adopt for first reader an Ordinance restricting parking between 11:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Broadway, between Spruce and 9th Streets. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL PREPARATION – BUDGET YEAR FOR DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS

Councilman Lawson made reference to considering in this budget year historic signs for the

depot, new garbage cans, good signage for businesses and lighting around buildings, using money from Economic Recovery funding.

He also noted that a group of citizens would be re-opening Side Street.

Councilman Lawson commented that at the end of 10th Street, the trucks that park there are stifling pedestrian traffic. Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would like to see poles put there 25 feet from the water line. Mr. Bradshaw advised that he would obtain information concerning the trucks that are parking there.

Mr. Bradshaw also noted that there will be soon be an historic marker placed in some area of the City close to the depot.

Councilman Lawson also made reference to seeing if SHA will add the United States Coast Guard Sign to the town center sign.

Councilman Lawson also made reference to corner visibility and would like the Planning Commission to look at recommendations.

Councilman Lawson also made reference to the need for dumpster containers at businesses.

AT & T LEASE

Mr. Sullivan made reference to the AT & T Lease still needed some amendments on Sec. 2 Page 2 – rent fee should be \$129.16, adding a clause that the monthly fee will be \$2029.16.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the amended lease pursuant to acceptance of dollar figures as specified by legal counsel. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

EVENT APPLICATIONS – LITTLE LEAGUE PARADE, SPORTS CASTING EVENTS, MOVIES @ THE MARINA

AND MCCREADY FOUNDATION TWO MILE FUN WALK

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve all of the event applications with the contingency on the Little League Parade, that they provide a certificate of liability insurance. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

Councilman Lawson also made reference to a possible concert at the beach on June 29th and noted that they would have to get the event cleared by the City and the Legion.

PUBLIC INPUT

George Friedley commented that he feels the proposed new sign would get more exposure if placed on Maryland Avenue.

Councilman Lawson advised that he agrees with the visibility, but they must make sure the library building is in place first.

Irving Saltz commented that he would like the police department to remain at the bank building, for the image of the City and safety.

George Friedley commented that he has been frustrated dealing with Long Term Recovery.

Councilman Konapelsky that on April 16th, 6:00 p.m. at CHS, State officials will be there to explain how the \$8.6M will be used and address problems.

Ella Miles requested more police patrol on Locust Street.

Vicki Tyler commented that she feels CPD should remain at the bank building.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORT

Councilman Atkins noted that this year's Boat Docking contest may be held in the Marina.

Councilman Konapelsky requested to establish a budget worksession schedule at the next

meeting. Mayor Purnell advised them to set the date and have the meeting if needed.

Council Vice President Johnson noted that she would like to see more meetings. She also made reference to the 141th Birthday of Crisfield. Council Vice President Johnson also noted that she had received some complaints concerning the lack of lighting at the Armory. In reference to complaints noted by citizens about police officers speeding, she commented that there are six elected officials and she feels that citizens can go to the Mayor or Council and that should be sufficient for the Chief. Mayor Purnell interjected that if a person calls when the speeding occurs, you would know who was working. Council Vice President Johnson stated that she feels Council notification should be enough.

In reference to the lighting complaint at the Armory, Mrs. Morgan suggested property lighting.

There being no further business for discussion, Councilman Lawson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary